Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 014311

53
ORIGIN IO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-08 (ISO) R

DRAFTED BY: IO/UNP:VFHARTLEY:MR
APPROVED BY: IO:DMCCLELLAN
EUR/EE:TPDUNLOP
---------- 082440
R 210108Z JAN 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 014311

FOLLOWING REPEAT USUN 134 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ANKARA ATHENS BONN BRUSSELS COPENHAGEN CANBERRA DUBLIN HELSINKI LISBON LONDON LUXEMBOURG MADRID OSLO OTTAWA PARIS REYKJAVIK ROME STOCKHOLM TOKYO THEHAGUE VALLETTA VIENNA WELLINGTON GENEVA NATO 16 JAN

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0134

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, SG
SUBJECT: "WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS" GROUP AT THE 30TH UNGA

REF: USUN 6963

1. SUMMARY:

DURING THE 30TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY (UNGA), THE 22-MEMBER "WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS" GROUP (WEOG) WAS MARKED IN PARTICULAR BY INCREASING COHESION WITHIN ITS KEY EC-9 COMPONENT. THERE WERE, HOWEVER, SERIOUS INSTANCES OF LACK OF EC-9 AND NATO SOLIDARITY ON KEY ISSUES AND SUPPORT FOR U.S. AND NATO INTERESTS WAS NOTABLY DEFICIENT.

USUN ATTENDED WEOG AMBASSADORIAL- LEVEL MEETINGS AS AN OBSERVER AND WEOG LOWER-LEVEL MEETINGS AS A CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 014311

PARTICIPANT. ADDITIONALLY, USUN PARTICIPATED AT AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL IN VINCI GROUP MEETINGS (WEOG PLUS U.S. AND JAPAN). ACTIVE U.S. PARTICIPATION IN THE WEOG CONTINUES TO BE WELCOME BY THE GREAT MAJORITY OF WEOG MEMBERS. WITHIN THE WEOG,

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

THERE HAS BEEN A FIRMING OF POSITION AGAINST LEFTIST TACKS
BY WEOG MEMBERS SUCH AS SWEDEN OR MALTA. GIVEN THE ROLE AT
THE UN OF THE WEOG AS A PRINCIPAL FONT OF SUPPORT FOR WESTERN
DEMOCRATIC POSITIONS, IT BEHOOVES US TO MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP
PARTICULARLY CLOSE TIES AND COORDINATION WITH THIS GROUP.
END SUMNRY.

2. COMPOSITION OF THE WEOG:

THE WEOG IN THE UN CONTEXT COMPRISES ALL THE NON-
COMMUNIST COUNTRIES OF WESTERN EUROPE (INCLUDING MALTA, BUT
NOT CYPRUS) PLUS AUSTRALIA, CANADA, AND NEW ZEALAND (22
COUNTRIES IN ALL). AT AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL WEOG MEETINGS,
THE U.S. PARTICIPATES AS AN OBSERVERS AS DO SWITZERLAND AND
THE HOLY SEE. AT WORKING-LEVEL WEOG MEETINGS (I.E.,
UNGA COMMITTEE-LEVEL MEETINGS), THE U.S. PARTICIPATES AS
A FULL MEMBER. ADDITIONALLY, USUN AT AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL
PARTICIPATES IN VINCI GROUP (REFTEL) MEETINGS (WEOG PLUS U.S.
AND JAPAN). THE EC-9 ACTS AS A CORE WITHIN THE WEOG ON MOST
IMPORTANT ISSUES. OTHER WEOG MEMBERS ARE INFLUENCED BY
EC-9 POSITIONS (AS IS THE WEOG BY U.S. POSITIONS). HOW-
EVER, THIS INFLUENCE VARIES FROM ZERO IN THE CASE
OF MALTA TO MUCH IN THE CASE OF CANADA, WHICH ON MOST ISSUES
PARALLELS THE EC-9. THE NORDIC COUNTRIES AND AUSTRIA SOMETIMES LINE
UP WITH THE EC-9. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND HAVE OFTEN SIDED
WITH THE NON-ALIGNED, BUT SO HAVE THE STRONGLY SUPPORTED
WESTERN POSTIONS. JAPAN, ALTHOUGH NOT A WEOG MEMBER,
PARTICIPATES IN THE VINCI GROUP AND OFTEN IDENTI-
FIES ITSELF WITH WEO AND EC-9 POSITIONS IN BOTH POLITICAL
AND ECONOMIC AREAS. FINALLY SPAIN, PORTUGAL, GREECE, AND
TURKEY ARE INDIVIDUAL CASES. AS DISCUSSED IN REFTEL, THERE
IS NO PURELY NATO CAUCUS IN NEW YORK. HOWEVER, THE WEOG
AND THE VINCI GROUP PROVIDE FOR MEETINGS OF ALL NATO MEMBERS
ALBEIR INTHE COMPANY OF OTHERS.

3. EC-9 AND NATO PERFORMANCE:

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 014311

(A) EC-9 AND OFTEN FURSTRATING AND DISAPPOINTING 30TH UNGA,
EC-9 COHESIVENESS AND GENERAL ALIGNMENT WITH U.S. POSITIONS
WAS ENCOURAGING. THE EC-9 ARE PROUD OF THEIR
INCREASING COHESIVENESS AND SAY SO IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC.
THEY HAVE POINTED OUT THAT AT THE 27TH UNGA (1972) THEY
VOTED IN PLENARY AS A BLOC ON 67 PERCENT OF THE ISSUES WHILE
AT THE 30TH SESSION THE PERCENTAGE ROSE TO 84 PERCENT. AT
THE 30TH UNGA, ITALY AS EC-9 PRESIDENT, DELIEVERED COMMON
STATEMENTS OF POSITION FOR THE EC-9, INCLUDING SEVEN IN
PLENARY. AT THE 30TH UNGA THERE WAS, NEVERTHELESS, DIVER-
GENCE AMONST THE EC-9 ON 34, SOMETIMES KEY, RESOLUTIONS.
THERE WERE, HOWEVER, FEW CASES WHERE ONE OR MORE OF THE EC-
9 VOTED "NO" OR "YES" WHEN THE MAJORITY VOTED THE OTHER WAY.

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

DIVERGENCE WAS MOST OFTEN REFLECTED BY ABSTANTIONS. ON KOREA AND "ZIONISM," THE EC-9WERE WITH US FOURSQUARE, BUT ON PALESTINE, THE MIDDLE EAST AND GUAM THEY SPLIT. FRANCE,DENMARK, IRELAND AND THE NETHERLANDS MOST OFTEN VOTED DIFFERENTLY THAN THE MAJORITY OF THE EC-9. USUN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EC-9 ON ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE US, WHILE NORMALLY CONDUCTED IN THE BROADER WEOG CONTEXT, WERE HELPFUL IN OUR LOBBYING EFFORTS. UNDER ITALY'S ENERGETIC EC-9 LEADERSHIP, THERE EMERGED A STRONGER SENSE OF WESTERN DEMOCRATIC SOLIDARITY THAN IN RECENT YEARS. WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT, AS THE EC-9 DEVELOP COHESION OF VIEWS, THEY GAIN COURAGE AND INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS TEND TO BE LESS LIKELY TO TAKE MAVERICK POSITIONS IN THE UN.

(B) NATO

MOST REGRETABLY ON THE GUAM RESOLUTION ELEVEN NATO MEMBERS (BELGIUM, CANADA, DEMARK, FRANCE, GREECE, ICELAND, ITALY, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PORTUGAL AND TURKEY) ABSTAINED RATHER THAN JOIN FRG, LUXEMBOURG, THE UK AND THE US IN VOTING AGAINST IT. LACK OF NATO SOLIDARITY WAS ALSO STRIKING ON THE BASKET RESOLUTION ON DECOLONIZATION AND ON THE RESOLUTION ON DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON DECOLONIZATION. NATO VOTES ON THE FIRST WERE: IN FAVOR (8) - CANADA, DENMARK, GREECE, ICELAND, ITALY, NORWAY, PORTUGAL AND TURKEY; AGAINST (1) - US; ABSTAIN (6) - BELGIUM, FRANCE, FRG, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS AND THE UK. NATO VOTES ON THE SECOND WERE: IN FAVOR (13) - BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, FRP, GREECE, ICELAND, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, PORTUGAL, TURKEY AND THE UK; CONFIDENTIAL

AGAINST (1) - US; ABSTAIN (1) FRANCE. THE SPECTACLE OF NATO IN DISARRAY ON THESE RESOLUTIONS WAS DEPLORABLE, PARTICULARLY SINCE THE BASKET RESOLUTION ON DECOLONIZATION ENDORSED A REPORT FEATURING, FOR INSTANCE, GROSSLY FALSE ALLEGATION OF NATO SUPPORT FOR RHODESIA AND THE RESOLUTION ON DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON DECLONIZATION CALLED FOR ACTION WHICH WOULD RESULT IN BROAD DISTRIBUTION OF SUCH A FABRICATION. MORE POSITIVELY, HOWEVER NATO VOTES ON THE "ZIONISM" RESOLUTION WERE: IN FAVOR (2) - PORTUGAL AND TURKEY; AGAINST (12) - BELGIUM, CANADA, DENMARK, FRG, ICELAND, ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY, UK, US; ABSTAIN (1) GREECE.

4 OTHER ASPECTS OF WEOG PERFORMANCE:

THE DIFFERENT GOVERNMENTS REPRESENTED IN THE WEOG COMBINE A WIDE VARIETY OF NATIONAL INTERESTS AND PROBLEMS. THEREFORE, A FEW COMMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL WEO COUNTRIES AND GROUPINGS SEEM APPROPRIATE:

A. FRANCE:

EVEN MORE THAN LAST YEAR AS THE FRENCH POSITION

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

BECAME MORE HARMONIOUS UNDER GISCARD D'ESTAING, THE FRENCE LINED UP MORE EASILY WITHIN THE EC-9 COMMUNITY AND SEEMED MUCH MORE COMFORTABLE IN DEALING WITH US POSITIONS. FOR INSTANCE, FRANCE WITH ITS AMENDMENTS, GAVE US STRONG SUPPORT ON KOREA AND WAS CRUCIAL IN MAINTAINING AND DEVELOPING SUPPORT FOR THE FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. ALL THE SAME, FOR INSTANCE, ON SOME DISARMAMENT AREAS AND ON THE RACIAL DIS-CRIMINATION RESOLUTIONS, FRANCE VOTED INDEPENDENTLY OF EC-9 AND US. POSITIONS. USUN'S RELATIONSHIP WITH FRANCE'S MISSION REMAINS EXCELLENT.

B. MALTA:

ON EVERY UN ISSUE OF INTEREST TO THE US., MALTA SIDED WITH THE NON-ALIGNED OR THIRD-WORLD VIEW. MALTA'S CONTINUED THIRD-WORLD POSITION GAVE HEARTBURN TO MANY WEOG AND EC-9 MEMBERS. SOME (E.G. THE FRG AND THE NETHERLANDS) SUGGESTED INFORMALLY WITHIN THE EC-9 THAT THE TIME MAY HAVE COME TO EXPEL MALTA FROM THE WEOG. CONFIDENTIAL

C. AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND:

WITH NEW CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENTS JUST INSTALLED, THESE TWO ACTIVE WEOG MEMBERS MAY BECOME LESS INCLINED TO SIDE WITH THE NONALIGNED AND MAY RETURN MORE TO THE INNER FOLD OF WEO THINKING. NEVERTHELESS, AT THE 30TH UNGA AUSTRALIA GAVE US OUTSTANDING SUPPORT ON PUERTO RICO AND NEW ZEALAND ON KOREA.

D. THE NORDIC GROUP:

DURING THE 30TH UNGA, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE TO DIVINE NORDIC SOLIDARITY ON MANY ISSUES. FINLAND ABSTAINED ON THE KOREAN RESOLUTION, VOTED AGAINST US ON GUAM AND THE NORDICS SPLIT ON PALESTINE. ON ZIONISM AS A FORM OF RACISM, ALL THE NORDICS VOTED AGAINST THE RESOLUTION. AMONGST THE NORDICS, SWEDEN AND FINALAND TEND TO TAKE THE MORE DIVERGENT VIEWS. SWEDEN'S ACTION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL IN PARTING COMPANY WITH WITH WESTERN MEMBERS TO VOTE UNDER A PRESTIGE-ACCURING FORMULA TO INVITE THE PLO TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL TABLE PROBABLY STRUCK THE NADIR.

E. GREECE AND TURKEY:

GREECE AND TURKEY ARE PREOCCUPIED BY CYPRUS AND THEIR VOTING POSITIONS ON OTHER ISSUES USUALLY REFLECT THEIR QUESTS FOR SUPPORT ON CYPRUS RESOLUTIONS.

5. FUTURE US-WEOG COOPERATION AT UN:

(A) WHILE AT WEOG AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL MEETINGS WE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

PRESERVE OUR UNIQUE SPECIAL STATUS OF INDEPENDENCE FROM THE
REGIONAL GRUPS AND ATTEND AS OBSERVERS, ACTIVE US. PAR-
TICIPATION IN THE WEOG CONTINUES TO BE WELCOME BY A GREAT
MAJORITY OF ITS MEMBERS. DURING THE 30TH UNGA, WE ATTEND-
ED ALL AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL MEETINGS AND WERE CONSULTED IN-
FORMALLY ON ALL ISSUES. IN THE CASE OF SELECTION OF THE
WEOG CANDIDATE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE ELEC-
TION, WE PARTICIPATED AT AMBASSADORIAL-LEVEL IN A SECRET
STRAW-BALLOT TO HELP THE CHAIRMAN DETERMINE THE RELATIVE
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 06 STATE 014311

STRENGTH OF THE FIVE WEO CANDIDATES. HOWEVER, AT ALL
COMMITTEE-LEVEL WEOG MEETINGS WE PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY. WE
CHAIRED THE SIXTH COMMITTEE (LEGAL) WEOG MEETINGS. WITH
GROWING ECJAO COHESIVENESS ON MOST IMPORTANT ISSUES WITH
WHICH WE AND THE EC-9 ARE CONCERNED, THERE HAS BEEN A CERTAIN
FIRMING OF POSITIONS AGAINST LEFTIST TACKS TAKEN BY COUNTRIES
SUCH AS SWEDEN AND MALTA. NOT SURPRISINGLY, AFTER THE
DECISIVE SWEDISH VOTE IN THE SECURIITY COUNCIL IN FAVOR
OF PLO PARTICIPATION, A NUMBER OF EC-9 PERMANENT REPRESENTA-
TIVES INFORMALLY SUGGESTED THAT SWEDEN MIGHT NOT CONTINUE TO
DESERVE WEO SUPPORT. MALTA ALREADY HAS BEEN EXCLUDED FROM
WEOG FIFTH AND SIXTH COMMITTEE MEETINGS. CONVERSEL, BOTH
THE EC-9 AND THE WEOG AS A WHOLE, SEEM TO FAVOR CLOSER US.
PARTICIPATION AND THE EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF OUR POSI-
TIONS AND VIEWS ON AREAS OF MUTUAL IMPORTANCE. WE SHOULD
POINT OUT, THOUGH, THAT CLOSER COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US.,
THE EC-9 AND THE WEOG WOULD ENTAIL CERTAIN DANGERS. AS THE
EC-9 BECOME MORE COHESIVE, THEY TEND TO CONSULT LESS WITH
THE WEOG AS A WHOLE. FURTHERMORE, WITH THEIR POLICY OF CON-
SENSUS, THE EC-9'S LOWEST COMMON DENOMINATOR CAN SOMETIMES
WEAKEN A SITUATION WHERE THE US. COULD COMMAND FULLER SUPPORT
FROM SOME MEMBERS OF THE EC-9.

(B) DESPITE THE PRESENCE OF COUNTRIES SUCH AS MALTA
AND CUBA IN THEIR RESPECTIVE GROUPINGS, THE 22-MEMBER WEOG, AND
THE 26-MEMBER LATIN AMERICAN GROUP PROVIDE THE PRINCIPAL
WEIGHT OF UN SUPPORT FOR WESTERN DEMOCRATIC POSITIONS. IN
1976 THESE TWO GROUPS WILL PROBABLY REPRESENT LESS THAN 1/3
OF THE UN MEMBERSHIP WHICH NOW TOTALS 144 AND WHICH MAY WELL
BE AUGMENTED BY NEW MEMBERS SUCH AS ANGOLA, THE AFARS AND
ISSAS, AND THE SEYCHELLES. THUS IT BEHOOVES US TO MAINTAIN
AND DEVELOP PARTICULARLY CLOSE TIES AND CONSULTATION WITH
THE WEOG, MANY OF WHOSE MEMBERS CAN HELP INFLUENCE FAVORABLY
SIGNIFICANT THIRD AND FOURTH WORLD ELEMENTS. FURTHERMORE,
INCREASED CONSULTATIONS AT THE POLITICAL LEVEL OF NATO COMBINED
WITH THE EARLY IDENTIFICATION OF KEY ISSUES SHOULD IMPROVE THE
NATO PERFORMANCES ON UN ISSUES AND HOPEFULLY WILL PROVIDE MORE WEO
SUPPORT FOR US INTERESTS.
MOYNIHAN
UNQUOTE SISCO

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 15 SEP 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEE MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: saccheem
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE014311
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: IO/UNP:VFHARTLEY:MR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760023-0257
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760199/baaaenyz.tel
Line Count: 272
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: saccheem
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 MAR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <03 AUG 2004 by saccheem>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: "WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS" GROUP AT THE 30TH UNGA
TAGS: PFOR, SG, XT, UN, NATO, WEO, EC-9
To: BUCHAREST
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006